

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1 - 28. (Cancelled)

29. (currently amended) A connecting device comprising a clamping screw and a sleeve for connecting a first workpiece having an interior space to ~~another~~ a second workpiece, by a the clamping screw having a shank which engages in a longitudinal groove of the first workpiece and which can be inserted into an opposing element in an interior space of the ~~another~~ second workpiece, wherein the shank of the clamping screw passes through a the sleeve of the connecting device, which said sleeve is provided with outer ribs and is fixed in the longitudinal groove of the first workpiece such that a threaded area of the clamping screw protrudes beyond a face of the first workpiece and is provided with a screw head at a distance therefrom, wherein ~~there is assigned to~~ the threaded area of the clamping screw has a nut-like nut screw head which can be fitted thereon, and said screw head is designed such that said screw head can be inserted into an undercut longitudinal groove of the ~~another~~ second workpiece, and wherein the sleeve has at least three groups of said outer ribs which are parallel to ~~the a~~ longitudinal axis of the sleeve, which said outer ribs, in ~~the a~~ a fixing position, are assigned to radial grooves in ~~the a~~ a groove bottom and in facing surfaces of the longitudinal groove on rib shapes ~~shaped ribs~~ which delimit a profile side face.

30. (currently amended) The connecting device as claimed in claim 29, wherein ~~an~~ one of said outer ribs, ~~which is~~ approximately triangular in cross section, and merges with its rib faces into shaped channels of a sleeve outer face.

31. (previously presented) The connecting device as claimed in claim 29, wherein rib crests of a number of said outer ribs run parallel to one another.

32. (previously presented) The connecting device as claimed in claim 29, wherein rib crests of a number of said outer ribs define a common annular contour.

33. (currently amended) The connecting device as claimed in claim 29, wherein the outer ribs of the sleeve can be inserted in said radial grooves of the first workpiece.

34. (previously presented) The connecting device as claimed in claim 29, wherein one sleeve edge of the sleeve fixed in the first workpiece is approximately flush with the face of the first workpiece.

35. (previously presented) The connecting device as claimed in claim 34, wherein a ring, which is made of elastic material and surrounds the threaded area of the clamping screw, is arranged between the one sleeve edge and the screw head.

36. (previously presented) The connecting device as claimed in claim 29, wherein the screw head which can be screwed onto the clamping screw is designed in a plate-shaped manner.

37. (previously presented) The connecting device as claimed in claim 36, wherein a length of the screw head is shorter than a width of a groove space of the undercut longitudinal groove which receives the screw head.

38. (previously presented) The connecting device as claimed in claim 35, wherein the shaped ribs delimiting the longitudinal groove are designed in a hook-shaped manner and faces of hook ends which are directed toward the groove bottom are designed as an abutment for the screw head.

39. (previously presented) The connecting device as claimed in claim 38, wherein the hook ends have a height which corresponds approximately to a height of the ring made of elastic material which is mounted between them.

(Withdrawn)

40. ~~(previously presented)~~ A connecting device for connecting a first workpiece having an interior space, to another workpiece by a clamping screw, clamping screw having a shank which passes through an opening of the first workpiece and can be inserted into an opposing element in an interior space delimited by side walls thereof, wherein a connecting device is inserted into the interior space of the first workpiece, said connecting device touching inner faces of the side walls thereof and comprising a shaped piece having the shape of a cross in cross section, which connecting device is fixed in a hollow profile such that one of its faces is approximately flush with one face of the hollow profile, and a threaded area of the clamping screw protruding beyond said face of the hollow profile into the interior space of another hollow profile and is connected there to an opposing member which is designed as a screw stud and bears against an inner face of said another hollow profile.

(Withdrawn)

41. ~~(previously presented)~~ The connecting device as claimed in claim 40, wherein side edges of four shaped piece ribs of the shaped piece are provided with a screw hole for a screw or screw bushing which passes through a side wall of the hollow profile.

(Withdrawn)

42. ~~(previously presented)~~ The connecting device as claimed in claim 41, wherein the side edge of the shaped piece rib is provided with at least one channel-like incision which runs transversely to a longitudinal axis ( $A_1$ ) of the shaped piece.

(Withdrawn)

43. ~~(previously presented)~~ The connecting device as claimed in claim 42, wherein two side walls of the incision are inclined at an angle ( $\alpha$ ) with respect to one another such that a cross section of the incision expands outward.

(Withdrawn)

44. ~~(previously presented)~~ The connecting device as claimed in claim 42, wherein, in a clamped position of the shaped piece, the incision receives a shaping of one side wall of the hollow profile.

(Withdrawn)

45. ~~(previously presented)~~ The connecting device as claimed in claim 44, further comprising two incisions on opposite sides of a longitudinal axis each receiving one of the shapings.

(Withdrawn)

46. ~~(previously presented)~~ The connecting device as claimed in claim 41, wherein a passage for a retaining bolt which forms the clamping screw runs in a longitudinal axis of the shaped piece.

(Withdrawn)

47. ~~(previously presented)~~ The connecting device as claimed in claim 46, wherein the screw hole in the shaped piece rib opens into the passage for the retaining bolt.

48. (withdrawn) The connecting device as claimed in claim 46, wherein the retaining bolt comprises a threaded bolt integrally formed axially on a bolt body.

49. (withdrawn) The connecting device as claimed in claim 48, wherein at least one lateral trough is formed in the bolt body as a catch element for a screw bushing or screw provided in the screw hole of the shaped piece rib.

50. (withdrawn) The connecting device as claimed in claim 48, wherein the bolt body comprises a peripheral constriction, delimited by two bolt sections tapering in opposite directions toward one another, as a catch element for a screw bushing or screw provided in the screw hole of the shaped piece rib.

51. (withdrawn) The connecting device as claimed in claim 40, wherein the screw stud is designed in a strip-like manner and has on a lower face a central molding, in the region of which there is a central screw opening for a threaded area of the clamping screw, and wherein optionally a round slot is provided in the region of the central molding.

52. (withdrawn) The connecting device as claimed in claim 51, wherein an upper surface of the screw stud remote from the lower face is curved as part of a circle in cross section and/or in longitudinal section has two opposing oblique faces.

53. (withdrawn) A connecting device for connecting a first workpiece having an interior space to another workpiece by a clamping screw, a shank of the clamping screw passing through an opening of the first workpiece and inserted into an opposing element in an interior space delimited by side walls thereof, wherein the two workpieces are miter-cut and are placed against one another at right angles by their oblique edges, wherein, in the corner region of the interior space, at least two parallel angle brackets which fill a cross section of the interior space are fixedly connected to one another and to hollow profiles by screws or similar members.

54. (withdrawn) The connecting device as claimed in claim 53, wherein the device has two angle brackets of approximately the same thickness, and bracket legs of which are in each case provided with a receiving hole for screws.

55. (withdrawn) The connecting device as claimed in claim 54, wherein one of said angle brackets is provided with screw holes which pass through its bracket legs as receiving holes and another angle bracket is provided with blind holes as receiving clips.

56. (withdrawn) The connecting device as claimed in claim 55, wherein the screw holes of one angle bracket run coaxially with the blind holes of the other angle bracket and with openings in one of the profile side walls.